

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:
2 identifying hosts present within a local network;
3 providing a list of available features for at least one host within said local network;
4 receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;
5 analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at
6 least one host; and
7 assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is
8 assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned
2 to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be
3 assigned to said at least one host.

1 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said static IP address is assigned
2 from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a
3 pool of available dynamic addresses.

1 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said list is provided in a graphical
2 user interface.

1 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said selected feature is capable of
2 being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said assigning of said IP address is
2 in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: returning said static IP
2 address to a pool of available IP addresses if said selected feature requiring said static IP
3 address is disabled.

1 8. A program of instructions storable on a medium readable by an
2 information handling system to execute steps for assigning Internet Protocol (IP) addresses,
3 the steps comprising:
4 identifying hosts present within a local network;
5 providing a list of available features for at least one host within said local network;
6 receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;
7 analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at
8 least one host; and
9 assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is
10 assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

1 9. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein a dynamic IP
2 address is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static
3 IP address to be assigned to said at least one host.

1 10. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 9, wherein said static IP
2 address is assigned from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address
3 is assigned from a pool of available dynamic addresses.

1 11. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein said list is
2 provided in a graphical user interface.

1 12. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 11, wherein said selected
2 feature is capable of being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

1 13. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, wherein said assigning of
2 said IP address is in accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

1 14. The program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
2 returning said static IP address to a pool of available IP addresses if said selected feature
3 requiring said static IP address is disabled.

1 15. In a local network of one or more one hosts, a system for assigning Internet
2 Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:
3 means for identifying the hosts present within the local network;
4 means for providing a list of available features for at least one host within the local
5 network;
6 means for receiving a selection of one of said available features from said list;
7 means for analyzing if said selected feature requires a static IP address to be assigned
8 to said at least one host; and
9 means for assigning an IP address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address
10 is assigned to said at least one host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

1 16. The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned
2 to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be
3 assigned to said at least one host.

1 17. The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said static IP address is assigned
2 from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a
3 pool of available dynamic addresses.

1 18. The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said list is provided in a graphical
2 user interface.

1 19. The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein said selected feature is capable of
2 being selected by a user utilizing said graphical user interface.

1 20. The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said assigning means operates in
2 accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

1 21. The system as claimed in claim 15, further comprising: means for returning
2 said static IP address to a pool of available addresses if said selected feature requiring said
3 static IP address is disabled.

1 22. In a local network of one or more hosts, a system for assigning Internet
2 Protocol (IP) addresses, comprising:

3 a processor;

4 a memory coupled to said processor, wherein said memory is capable of storing a list
5 of available features for at least one host within the local network;

6 a display coupled to said processor, wherein said display is capable of providing said
7 list of available features to a user;

8 an input device coupled to said processor, wherein said input device is capable of
9 receiving a selection by said user of one of said available features from said list; and

10 logic capable of being executed by the processor, wherein said logic is capable of
11 identifying hosts present within a local network, analyzing if said feature selected by said
12 user requires a static IP address to be assigned to said at least one host, and assigning an IP
13 address to said at least one host, wherein a static IP address is assigned to said at least one
14 host if said selected feature requires said static IP address.

1 23. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein a dynamic IP address is assigned
2 to said at least one host if said selected feature does not require said static IP address to be
3 assigned to said at least one host.

1 24. The system as claimed in claim 23, wherein said static IP address is assigned
2 from a pool of available static IP addresses and said dynamic IP address is assigned from a
3 pool of available dynamic addresses.

1 25. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said list is provided in a graphical
2 user interface on said display.

1 26. The system as claimed in claim 25, wherein said selected feature is capable of
2 being selected by said user utilizing said graphical user interface.

1 27. The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein said IP address is assigned in
2 accordance with Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.

1 28. The system as claimed in claim 22, said logic is further capable of returning
2 said static IP address to a pool of available addresses if said selected feature requiring said
3 static IP address is disabled.